



# High Halden Church of England Primary School

## Newsletter 11



Spring Term

Friday 6th February 2026

*'Rooted in God, we grow together'*

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It is hard to believe we are already in the penultimate week of Term 3! While the winter chill is still lingering, we are all keeping our fingers crossed that we are inching closer to springtime and hopefully, some much-needed drier weather for our break times (and at the end of the day collection)!

Today was a fantastic day across the classrooms! It was wonderful to see the school literally awash with numbers. A huge thank you to all the parents and carers for the incredible effort put into the creative, number-themed clothing the children wore today. Your support with these themed days is so valuable; it helps us focus the children's energy and truly draw attention to the subject in a vibrant, memorable way.



The enthusiasm for maths didn't even stop at lunchtime; it was brilliant to hear so much "maths talk" over sandwiches and fruit. The children have been diving into some exciting projects: Y5/6 have been learning how to complete KenKen Puzzles: many children were eager to share their progress with these new logic puzzles. They are a fantastic way to build grit and mental arithmetic. Y3/4 created number stop-animations for the Bumblebees class. Combining digital storytelling with mathematical concepts is no small feat!



Finally, it warmed my heart to hear about a new club that some of the children have started 'The Girls of Greatness'. It was described to me a club where the children want to help others, who might be feeling sad or having a few problems. They offer them reassurance and kindness. I asked why they started the club, to be told 'the teachers do so much for us, we want to do lots for others'. What a way, to end the week with a smile!

### Attendance

While we are talking about numbers, I want to say a massive thank you to everyone making an extra special effort with their school attendance. I've been looking at the latest figures and I am so incredibly proud of you all. Seeing the classrooms full and ready to learn every morning makes such a difference to our school community. I wonder... can we push ourselves even further and hit 97% as a whole school? Let's see if we can finish the term on a high!

Reception	98.3%
Year 1	96.7%
Year 2	96.7%
Year 3	97.0%
Year 4	96.1%
Year 5	97.5%
Year 6	95.2%

#### Attendance percentage

School	96.8%
National	94.8%
Local Authority	94.5%



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## Coffee Morning – EYFS & KS1 Parents

A reminder to EYFS and KS1 parents that our Coffee Morning is taking place on Monday 9th February, straight after morning drop-off.

Please join us for coffee, tea, and cake, and a chance to relax and chat with other parents. Younger children are very welcome to attend if needed.

We will be joined by two speech and language therapists, who will be available to talk about:

The importance of play  
How to extend children's play  
Ways to support language development

There will also be time for informal conversations and questions. We hope you can join us for a friendly and informative morning.



## Year 6 Bikeability

Bikeability cycle training sessions will take place on:

**Tuesday 10th February**  
and  
**Wednesday 11th February**

These sessions are for the children in year 6 who have booked to take part in the course.

Further details regarding the course have been shared with families this week.



## Safer Internet Day

Next Tuesday, 10th February, we will be joining schools across the country to celebrate Safer Internet Day. This year's theme is especially timely: '*Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI*'.

With AI becoming a part of the apps and games children use every day, we want to ensure they have the confidence to navigate this new "smart" world safely. In school, we will be:

- Exploring how AI is used for good.
- Learning to spot AI-generated content.
- Discussing how to make responsible choices when using smart technology.

Get Involved At Home: [The UK Safer Internet Centre has some brilliant Top Tips for Parents and Carers](#) and interactive Quizzes to help you start these conversations at home. You can find all the resources on their website to help empower your child to use AI safely and responsibly.

## Term 4-Theme Day

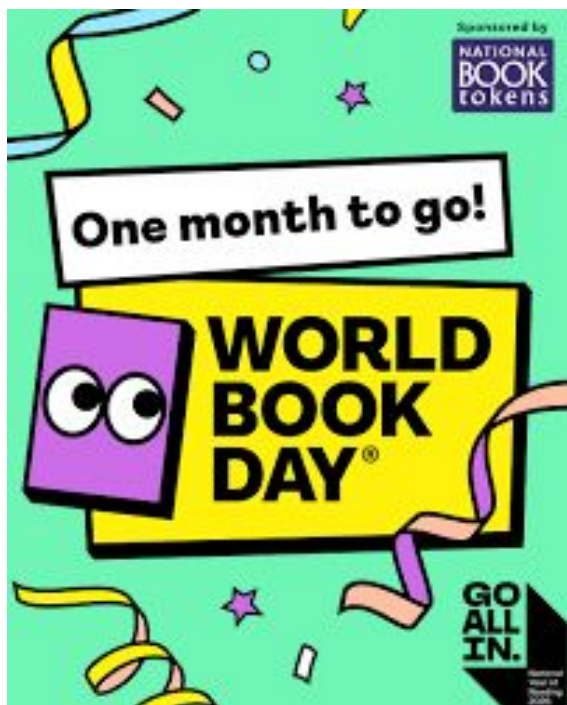
We are already buzzing with excitement for the start of Term 4! To kick things off, we will be holding an Eco Engineers Day.

Inspired by the moving true story *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, the whole school will become a hub of renewable energy innovation. The children will work together to create our very own mini wind farm right here at school, learning all about the marvels of wind power and how engineering can change the world for the better.



## World Book Day

It's time to get those book character costumes at the ready! We are encouraging everyone to recycle, reuse, and create your own. There is absolutely no need to spend money, we want to see you get creative with what you already have at home!



## Goodbye to Paper Copies

In our ongoing effort to look after the environment, we will no longer be printing paper copies of our newsletters. By reducing our paper waste, we are taking a small but important step toward a greener future.

You can stay up to date by accessing the newsletter via:

- The School Website
- Your Email inbox
- The link shared on ClassDojo

Thank you for your support in helping us protect the planet!

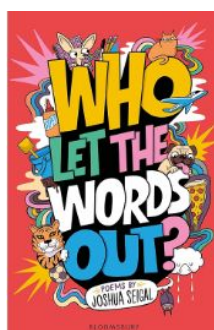
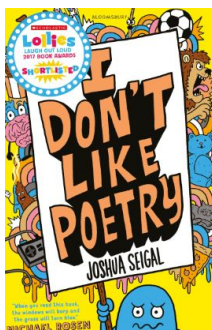


## Author Visit

We have a very exciting date for your diaries! On **10th March**, we will be welcomed by the award-winning poet and author **Joshua Seigal**.

This visit has been in the works since last year, after Mrs Ridley and Mrs De-Keyzer (from Woodchurch) met him at an English conference. They were both so inspired by his energy and his hilarious books, like *I Don't Like Poetry* and *Who Let the Words Out?*, that they knew our children would love to hear from him. We will share more details as the date gets closer!

<https://www.joshuaseigal.co.uk/>



## JUNIOR CRICKET

### 2026

TENTERDEN CRICKET CLUB

GIRLS & BOYS  
OF ALL ABILITIES  
WELCOME  
AGES  
5-16

## INDOOR SESSIONS START 25th JANUARY HOMWOOD SCHOOL @ 10AM

ECB QUALIFIED COACHES with county & international experience  
Competitive teams at under 9s, under 11s, under 13s and under 16s.

## OUTDOOR SESSIONS START 26th APRIL

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Junior Coordinator & Club Safeguarding Officer Nik Le Marechal  
07593 040485 or [niklem72@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:niklem72@yahoo.co.uk)

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THE HOME OF DISTINCTION

regional  
network  
solutions

Jockey's  
Club  
CHALLENGE

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# Non-uniform Day

## Friday 13th February 2026



Small gift donations on this day for our  
PTFA Mothers day/Someone Special  
Gift Shop

Further details regarding gift shop dates and  
how to register your child to take part will be  
shared soon



## ★ High Halden PTFA Fundraising Challenge – £20.26 ★

This term, we are inviting each child and their family to  
take part in our £20.26 Fundraising Challenge!

### 💡 The Challenge

Try to raise £20.26 – Individually or together as a family.  
Every little effort helps and it's all for a great cause!

### 📄 Why £20.26?

As this is our 2026 challenge, all fundraising ideas are  
linked to the number 26.  
Choose one idea or get creative and make up your own!

### 📅 Important Dates

📄 A letter and sponsorship form have been sent home  
including all the details needed to take part.

Thank you for your continued support – we can't wait to  
see the brilliant ideas our families come up with!

# 2026

## 🍰 PTFA Cake Raffle 🍰

The PTFA will be holding a Cake Raffle on  
Friday 13th February.

### 📄 Tickets on sale:

From Monday 9th February at the school  
office

### 💷 Ticket price:

£1 per ticket

Cash and card payments accepted

### 🎟️ The draw:

The winning ticket will be drawn during the  
school day, and the lucky family will be able  
to take the cake home that day to enjoy.

Thank you for supporting the PTFA and good  
luck!

## PTFA Glitter & Groove Valentines Disco Thursday 12th February 2026 4:30pm–6:00pm

Tickets available to purchase  
from  
the school office

Monday 2nd February

to

Wednesday 11th February



**£6 per child**

**Card payment preferred**  
(no bacs payments)

**Snack pre-order required**

All profit from this event will be donated to  
High Halden School PTFA

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The Tenterden Drama

# BARN DANCE

featuring Rejigged Ceilidh Band

28th February 2026  
Doors open 7pm, dancing 7.30pm  
St Michael's Village Hall  
TN30 6DU

Tickets £15  
[ticketsource.co.uk/todsproductions](http://ticketsource.co.uk/todsproductions)

Full bar, hot food and snacks available  
Prize for the best dressed!

Tenterden Drama Presents  
Rodgers & Hammersteins

# Oklahoma!

SPONSORED BY  
 ASHFORD SECURITY



18-21 March 2026  
Smarden Charter Hall

SPONSORED BY  
 ROBOWATCH  
 RM★ SELF STORAGE

Group Discounts Available  
[ticketsource.co.uk/todsproductions](http://ticketsource.co.uk/todsproductions)



SPORT FRENZY ASHFORD

PLAY FOOTBALL, MAKE FRIENDS, HAVE FUN!

# KICK OFF!

WITH OUR FOOTBALL CAMP

THURSDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> & FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

**THE NORTH SCHOOL**  
ASHFORD TN24 8AL

JOIN US FOR A FUN AND INCLUSIVE FOOTBALL CAMP FOR AGES 5-13. £20 PER DAY, LED BY UEFA QUALIFIED & DBS CHECKED COACHES IN A SAFE FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT.

Competitions to be won:

- WORLD CUP
- PENALTY SHOOTOUTS
- CROSSBAR CHALLENGES

CONTACT  
07845811004  
[Lfriendly9988@outlook.com](mailto:Lfriendly9988@outlook.com)



HHVEC PRESENTS .....

# RACE NIGHT

FUNDRAISER FOR VILLAGE EVENTS





**FRIDAY FEBRUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>**  
DOORS OPEN 6.45PM  
FIRST RACE 7.30PM

@ HIGH HALDEN MEMORIAL HALL

Enjoy an action-packed night of horse racing and fierce competition, with family and friends!

**GET YOUR TICKETS AND JOIN THE EXCITEMENT!** ONLY £5.00 !

"BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS & NIBBLES"

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM:  
CHEQUERS ON THE GREEN  
OR MEMORIAL HALL COFFEE MORNINGS



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**NHS**  
North East London  
NHS Foundation Trust

**OSI** Online Support and Intervention for Child Anxiety

Being away from caregivers  
General worries  
School worries  
Bedtime fears  
Social worries  
Phobias (e.g. spiders, dogs, injections)  
& more

**DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE PROBLEMS WITH ANXIETY?**


**OSI COULD HELP YOU**  
OSI (Online Support and Intervention) is an online platform designed to help parents to learn tools and techniques to help their child (aged 5 to 12 years old) to overcome difficulties with anxiety.


Parents work through weekly online modules that contain videos, quizzes, and interactive worksheets. Parents are also supported by a weekly telephone/video call appointment with a practitioner.


You can access OSI at a convenient time for you using any electronic device!

**HOW TO ACCESS OSI**  
If your child attends one of our schools and you feel OSI would be helpful for you and your child, please scan the QR code which will take you to our website and the OSI self-referral form.

Alternatively, if you would like to discuss this further with someone or would like to consider alternative support, please speak with the Senior Mental Health Lead in your child's school.







We are kind. We are respectful. We work together with our communities.

**NHS**  
North East London  
NHS Foundation Trust



**Online Parent Groups**  
Supporting your child with their emotional wellbeing  
For parents of children at primary school

**Supporting Your Child with Fears & Worries**


Are your child's worries and fears starting to impact their day to day life? This course will provide you with an understanding of how fears and worries develop in children, as well as evidence-based strategies and guidance to support your child with overcoming their fears and worries. This online group runs for 6 weeks and are run regularly throughout the year.

**Understanding Your Child's Behaviour**

Are you currently experiencing difficulties with your child's behaviour? This course will provide you with evidence-based strategies to promote a positive relationship with your child, supporting them with their emotion regulation and addressing any concerning behaviours. This online group runs for 7 weeks and are run regularly throughout the year.

If you would like to attend one of our groups, email  
[ewtandestenquiries@nelft.nhs.uk](mailto:ewtandestenquiries@nelft.nhs.uk)





[www.nelft.nhs.uk](http://www.nelft.nhs.uk)

Date	Event
Monday 9th February	SEND Coffee Morning - EYFS/KS1
Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th February	Bikeability Cycle Training Course - Year 6
Thursday 12th February	PTFA Valentines Disco
Friday 13th February	PTFA Non-uniform Day PTFA Cake Raffle Last Day of Term 3
Monday 23rd February	Term 4 begins Young Voices Concert at the O2

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